<u>WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:</u>

1   1.   A transaction protocol for communicating between an encryption

2   renewal system communicably coupled to one or more video on demand systems via a

3   communication network, the encryption renewal system permitting pre-encrypted content to

4   be accessed by clients of the video on demand systems, the protocol comprising:

5   receiving, by the encryption renewal system, a request transaction document

6   having a first format from the video on demand system;

7   parsing the request transaction document to retrieve data from the request

8   transaction document;

9   generating a request object code having a second format for processing by

10   encryption renewal system, the request object code based on the data in the request

11   transaction document;

12   responsive to processing of the request object code, generating a response

13   object code having the second format;

14   converting the response object code to a response transaction document having

15   the first format; and

16   forwarding the response transaction document to the video on demand system.

1   2.   The protocol of claim 1 wherein the request transaction document

2   contains an encryption record, a data structure having one or more cryptographic keys for

3   accessing the pre-encrypted content.

1   3.   The protocol of claim 1 further comprising

2   parsing the request transaction document to determine a protocol version of

3   the request transaction document,

4   wherein the request object code is partly based on the protocol version.

1   4.   The protocol of claim 1 wherein the first format is extensible mark-up

2   language, and the second format is Java.

1   5.   The protocol of claim 1 wherein the request transaction document is a

2   request to retrofit an entitlement control message for permitting clients of the video on

3   demand system to access the pre-encrypted content.

1   6.   The protocol of claim 5 wherein the response transaction document is a

2 response to the request to retrofit the entitlement control message.

1   7.   The protocol of claim 6 wherein the response further comprises a

2 callback time, specifying a time for the video on demand system to contact the encryption

3 renewal system.

1   8.   In a communication system having an encryption renewal system

2 coupled to one or more on demand servers, a method by the encryption renewal system for

3 allowing the on demand server to callback the encryption renewal system, the method

4 comprising:

5   receiving a first request to retrofit an entitlement control message;

6   retrofitting the entitlement control message to allow access to pre-encrypted

7 content; and

8   generating a first response having the entitlement control message which is

9 retrofitted, wherein the response further comprises a first call back time specifying a time for

10 the video on demand system to contact the encryption renewal system.

1   9.   The method of claim 8 further comprising

2   receiving a second request to retrofit prior to the first callback time; and

3   generating a response having a second callback time that invalidates the first

4 callback time.

1   10.   A system for communicating between an encryption renewal system

2 communicably coupled to one or more video on demand systems via a communication

3 network, the encryption renewal system permitting pre-encrypted content to be accessed by

4 clients of the video on demand systems, the system comprising:

5   means for receiving a request transaction document having a first format from

6 the video on demand system;

7   means for parsing the request transaction document to retrieve data from the

8 request transaction document;

9   means for generating a request object code having a second format for

10 processing by encryption renewal system, the request object code based on the data in the

11 request transaction document;

12   responsive to processing of the request object code, means for generating a
13   response object code having the second format;
14   means for converting the response object code to a response transaction
15   document having the first format; and
16   means for forwarding the response transaction document to the video on
17   demand system.

1   11.   The protocol of claim 10 wherein the request transaction document
2   contains an encryption record, a data structure having one or more cryptographic keys for
3   accessing the pre-encrypted content.

1   12.   The protocol of claim 10 further comprising
2   means for parsing the request transaction document to determine a protocol
3   version of the request transaction document,
4   wherein the request object code is partly based on the protocol version.

1   13.   In a communication system having an encryption renewal system
2   coupled to one or more on demand servers, a system for allowing the on demand server to
3   callback the encryption renewal system, the system comprising:
4   means for receiving a first request to retrofit an entitlement control message;
5   means for retrofitting the entitlement control message to allow access to pre-
6   encrypted content; and
7   means for generating a first response having the entitlement control message
8   which is retrofitted, wherein the response further comprises a first call back time specifying a
9   time for the video on demand system to contact the encryption renewal system.

34